



# SCCARA-GRAM



## Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Volume 50, Number 12

December 2025



## Dinner Meeting!

The December meeting will be our **annual holiday dinner meeting!** It's our regular meeting night (Monday, December 8) but at 7:00 PM instead of 7:30PM.

It will be at Denny's, 333 S. Abbott Ave. in Milpitas, near Hwy.237 and Hwy.880. From San Jose go North on 880. Exit at Calaveras East, take the first right onto S. Abbott Ave. and follow the curve around to Denny's on the right. We will be in the back room.

Bring the family with you! We'll each order from the menu individually and pay separate checks.

We will again have a gift exchange. To participate, bring a wrapped gift costing about \$10 or so. If it's intended for a man or woman, label it as such. The way it works is: one at a time each participant chooses a wrapped gift and opens it, OR they may "steal" an already opened gift. The "victim" of a steal (if there is one) then chooses another gift. Each specific gift can only be stolen once. It ends when all the wrapped gifts have been opened. It's a lot of fun!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Gregg KF6FNA



## ARRL News

From *The ARRL*, November 2025

### FCC Extends Renewal Filing Deadline

11/18/2025

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® reports that the FCC has extended the filing deadline to March 5, 2026, for amateur radio licenses that otherwise were due to expire from October 1, 2025, to March 5, 2026. The announcement is included in an FCC Public Notice (DA-25-943) released on Monday, November 17, 2025.

The news follows the recent reopening of the federal government on November 13, following a lengthy 43-day shutdown. Since reopening, many federal agencies, including the FCC, have resumed activities, though reducing backlogs and rebounding to full operations may take some time. This includes significant delays in filing amateur radio license applications.

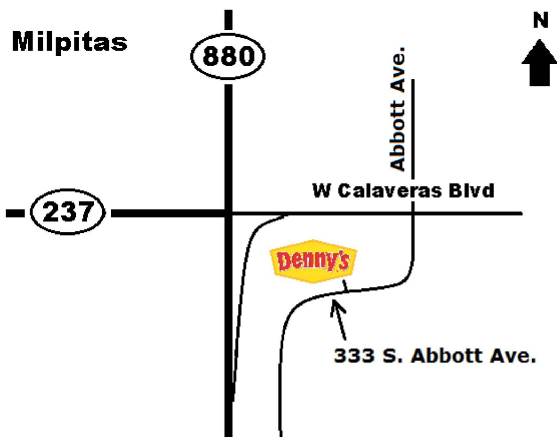
The FCC Public Notice includes:

## Calendar

12/8 SCCARA General Meeting--**Dinner!**  
12/15 SCCARA Board Meeting  
12/27 Club Station open

## General Meeting

Day: Monday, December 8  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Place: Denny's, 333 S. Abbott Ave, Milpitas  
Featuring: Holiday Dinner Meeting



For personal radio licensees (i.e., Amateur, Ship, Aircraft, GMRS, and Commercial Operator Licenses), renewal filings originally due on October 1, 2025, through and including March 5, 2026, are now due on March 5, 2026. Further, we confirm that licensees whose licenses have expired and whose renewal filing deadlines have been extended above may rely on their timely renewal filing (by the extended deadline) to support continued operation pursuant to section 1.62 of the Commission's rules.

ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (ARRL VEC) Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, explained that the announcement means

The **SCCARA-GRAM** is published monthly by the **SANTA CLARA COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION**, PO Box 106, San Jose CA 95103-0106.

SCCARA was formed in 1921 and became a non-profit corporation in 1947. SCCARA is an affiliate of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

The club station is **W6UW**, located at the San Jose Red Cross.

Permission to reprint articles is hereby granted, provided the source is properly credited.

The deadline for articles is the **last Monday of the month**.

Web page: [www.sccara.org](http://www.sccara.org)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

(officers are also directors)

|                 |                       |                                                                                                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President       | Gregg Lane KF6FNA     | 408-393-5607<br>texting preferred<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:kf6fna@comcast.net">kf6fna@comcast.net</a> |
| Vice President  | (open)                | e-mail:                                                                                                 |
| Secretary       | (open)                | e-mail:                                                                                                 |
| Treasurer       | Ned Tufekcic AC6YY    | 408-690-7250<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:t94nt@hotmail.com">t94nt@hotmail.com</a>                        |
| Station Trustee | Don Village, K6PBQ    | 408-263-2789                                                                                            |
| Director        | Lou Steirer, WA6QYS   | 408-241-7999<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:wa6qys@aol.com">wa6qys@aol.com</a>                              |
| Director        | Wally Britten, KA6YMD | 408-891-1105<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:ka6ymd@arrl.net">ka6ymd@arrl.net</a>                            |
| Director        | John Parks W6JPP      | e-mail: <a href="mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net">w6jpp@arrl.net</a>                                              |
| Director        | Janet Motha, KF6PUQ   | 408 252-3939<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:jmotha21@gmail.com">jmotha21@gmail.com</a>                      |
| Director        | (open)                | e-mail:                                                                                                 |

#### **COMMITTEES**

|           |                       |                                                                                              |
|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Editor    | Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU | 408-269-2924<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>       |
| Repeater  | Goetz Brandt K6GKB    | 408 259-7287<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:goetzbrandt@gmail.com">goetzbrandt@gmail.com</a>     |
| N0ARY BBS | Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU | 408-269-2924<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com">wb6yru@ix.netcom.com</a>       |
| Webmaster | Doug Owens N6DPO      | 408-568-9870<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:dougowens100@icloud.com">dougowens100@icloud.com</a> |

#### **SCCARA REPEATERS**

SCCARA owns and operates two repeaters under the call W6UU:  
2 m: 146.985 - PL 114.8  
70 cm: 442.425 + PL 107.2

Phone auto-dial and auto-patch is available. The 2 m repeater is located at Eagle Rock near Alum Rock Park in the foothills of east San Jose. The 70 cm repeater is located at the Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian), east of downtown San Jose, north of 280 and 101.

#### **SCCARA NETS**

On our 2 m repeater: Mondays at 7:30 PM, (not the second Monday--that's our meeting night); net control: Don Village, K6PBQ. On 10 m, 28.385 MHz USB, Thursdays at 8:00 PM; net control: *to be announced*. Visitors welcome.

#### **N0ARY PACKET BBS**

SCCARA hosts the packet BBS N0ARY (connect to n0ary-1). User ports: 145.09 MHz at 1200 baud, 433.37 MHz at 9600 baud, and telnet sun.n0ary.org (login "bbs"). Sysop: Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU. For general packet info, see the NCPA web site [ncpa.n0ary.org](http://ncpa.n0ary.org).

#### **AMATEUR LICENSE TESTING**

ARRL/VEC Silicon Valley VE group: <https://www.svve.org>  
Morris Jones, AD6ZH: 408-507-4698

that amateurs whose license expired, or will expire, between October 1, 2025, and March 5, 2026, may continue to operate upon completing a license renewal filing by March 5, 2026.

## **Images Beamed from Space Celebrate 25 Years of Ham Radio on the ISS**

11/13/2025

[Amateur Radio on the International Space Station](https://www.ariss.org/) (ARISS) will mark two major milestones this month with a special Slow Scan Television (SSTV) event aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Beginning November 12 through November 20, the station will transmit a series of 12 commemorative SSTV images, pausing only for a scheduled educational contact.

<https://www.ariss.org/>

The "SSTV Spacetacular" will highlight both the recent World Scouting movement's Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) and the 25th anniversary of ARISS ham radio operations on the ISS.



ARISS first went on the air on November 13, 2000, when the ISS Expedition 1 crew made the inaugural ham radio contact using an Ericsson VHF radio. That same year, the first scheduled school contact linked ISS Commander Bill Shepherd, who had call sign KD5GSL, with students at Luther Burbank School in

Burbank, Illinois. Since then, ARISS has connected an estimated 200,000 students, educators, and enthusiasts each year with astronauts living and working aboard the orbiting laboratory.

For this month's event, scouts, educators, students, and amateur radio operators worldwide are invited to receive and decode the transmitted images. Participants can upload their received pictures to the [ARISS SSTV gallery](https://ariss-usa.org/ARISS_SSTV/) to earn a commemorative electronic award certificate.

[https://ariss-usa.org/ARISS\\_SSTV/](https://ariss-usa.org/ARISS_SSTV/)

In ARISS's most recent SSTV campaign — held in early October to celebrate World Space Week — nearly 9,000 images were submitted by more than 3,600 participants on all continents, including three from Antarctica.



For the latest SSTV schedules, frequencies, and event details, follow ARISS on ARISS Facebook, X and Instagram.

Thanks to ARISS for the information in this news release.

## **Meeting Minutes**

**General Meeting, Nov. 10, 2025**



Red Cross, First St and Plumeria, San Jose, San Jose, CA.

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:43 pm

Customary self introductions. (Attendance sign-in is attached below)

#### Announcements

President Gregg KF6FNA:

Elections tonight

2 visitors

American Legion Post will have a BBQ tomorrow, our antenna trailer can be set up and make some contacts as a demo. 360 N. White Rd. at McKey, San Jose.

Board meeting will be on our repeater on Monday, Nov. 17 after the Monday night net.

A new HF beam antenna will be going up at the club station (Red Cross).

Gary WB6YRU passed around a diagram of a proposed antenna switch configuration to make operating multiple stations with multiple antennas easier.

Discussion about getting started and what equipment to get (for the visitors)

Gregg KF6FNA: Elections

Nominations:

Gregg KF6FNA re-elect for President

Ned AC6YY re-elect for Treasurer

Doug N6DPO will NOT run for re-election as Secretary (wasn't here at this meeting)

Wally KA6YMD re-elect for Director (wasn't here at this meeting)

Lou WA6QYS re-elect for Director (wasn't here at this meeting)

(The following Directors have one more year to go: Janet Motha KF6PUQ, John Parks W6JPP)

Elected by acclamation.

Gregg KF6FNA will make some calls, see if we can get someone to be Secretary.

Gary WB6YRU will remain editor (not an elected position), will help fill in doing some of the Secretary's duties (roster). Pointed out that anyone can take minutes, just need to make arrangements at the start of the meeting.

Gregg: KF6FNA:

Our next meeting will be our normal holiday dinner meeting at Denny's in Milpitas, 333 Abbott Rd.. Each pays their own way. We will have the usual gift exchange game. If you want to participate, come with a wrapped gift worth around \$10. If it's specific for a man or woman, note that.

John W6JPP: There's a DX convention in April 10-12 in Santa Maria. And Pacificon will be in October in San Ramon.

Gregg KF6FNA: Mentioned POTA (parks on the air), discussion followed (mostly for our visitors)

Meeting adjourned 8:28 pm

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

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Meeting attendance:

Gregg KF6FNA

Donald Wile KG6GO (visitor)

Ned AC6YY

Merry Gold, call pending (visitor)

Pablo Bionni KO6FCL (visitor)

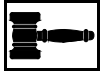
Gary WB6YRU

George N6NKT (visitor, Red Cross)

John W6JPP

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## Board Meeting, Nov. 17, 2025



Held verbally on our 2 m repeater W6UU/R

Meeting called to order by President Gregg Lane KF6FNA at 7:44 PM

#### Attendance:

President Gregg Lane KF6FNA, Treasurer Ned Tufekcic AC6YY (checked in via Echolink, mobile and can't give reports), Station Trustee Don Village K6PBQ. Directors Lou Steirer WA6QYS, Wally Britten KA6YMD, Janet Motha KF6PUQ.

Visitors: Gary WB6YRU

Absent: Dir. John Parks W6JPP, Secretary Doug Owens N6DPO

#### President's Report, Gregg KF6FNA:

We had elections at the November general meeting. We still need someone to be Secretary. We'll have our holiday dinner meeting at Denny's in Milpitas, 7:00-9:00 pm, the address is 333 Abbott Ave. near 880 and Calivaras Blvd.

#### Secretary's Report, Doug N6DPO:

#### Treasurer's Report, Ned AC6YY:

#### Trustee's Report, Don K6PBQ:

#### Standing Committees

Editor's report: Gary WB6YRU: We need an article about the holiday December dinner meeting in the next edition. It would be good to get a report on how we did at the flea market too. We had two this year, but not a word of it in the newsletter.

BBS Sysop's report: Gary WB6YRU: I recently tested the BBS and it appears there may be a log-in issue, I'm looking into it.

#### Repeater Chairman's report, Goetz K6GKB:

#### Webmaster's report, Doug N6DPO:

Gregg KF6FNA: the vote on the donation to qsl.net is still pending.

#### Old Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: Still working on getting a new antenna installed, I'll ask for volunteers when we have some good weather ahead.

#### New Business:

Gregg KF6FNA: George N6NKT is our Red Cross contact. He's not a member. It has been mentioned that we could give him one, but it was never voted on.

Don K6PBQ: Motion to make George a member

Lou WA6QYS: Second

KF6PUQ: yes

KA6YMD: yes

KN6FNA: yes

AC6YY: (didn't vote)

Gregg KF6FNA: Motion passes.

Gregg KF6FNA: We previously discussed making a donation of \$50 to qsl.net, our web host.

Don K6PBQ: Motion to make that donation.  
Janet KF6PUQ: Second  
KF6FNA: yes  
WA6QYS: yes  
KA6YMD: yes  
AC6YY: (didn't vote)  
Gregg KF6FNA: Motion passes

Wally KA6YMD: Jeannie noticed in QST magazine that SCCARA wasn't listed in the Field Day results. Did we get our report in?  
Gregg KF6FNA: Can we look into that?  
Wally KA6YMD: Since the ARRL published the results, it may be cast in stone by now.  
Gary WB6YRU: I believe Ned collected the logs, but since we didn't have a Field Day Chairman, we may have dropped that ball.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM

Gary Mitchell WB6YRU, recording for the Secretary

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## Packet Pieces

**Downloaded from the BBS packet network:**

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Date: 13 Apr 2020 23:23  
From: GM3YEW@GB7YEW  
To: HUMOUR@WW  
Subject: jokes 14/4

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The police came to my front door last night holding a picture of my wife. They said, "Is this your wife, sir?" Shocked, I answered, "Yes." They said, "I'm afraid it looks like she's been hit by a bus." I said, "I know, but she has a lovely personality."

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While golfing, I took a quick turn to avoid hitting a chuck hole, an accidentally overturned my golf cart. A very beautiful and attractive golfer, who lived right there on the edge of the golf course, heard the noise, came running out of her villa and shouted, "Are you okay?"

As I looked up I noticed she was wearing only a silky see-through bath robe which was partially open, revealing what appeared to be a VERY nice figure. "I'm okay I think," I replied as I pulled myself out from under the twisted cart.

She said, "Please come with me to my villa so I can clean and bandage that nasty scrape on your head, then you can rest a while, and I'll help you upright the cart later."

"That's mighty nice of you," I answered, but I don't think my wife will like me doing that!

"Oh, come on now," she insisted. "We need to see if you have any more scrapes and I'll treat them if you do."

Well, after all, she was really pretty, and very persuasive. Being sort of shaken and weak, I finally agreed, but repeated, "I'm sure my wife won't like this."

We walked to her place just 100 yards away, and after a couple of Scotch and waters and the bandaging, I thanked her and said, "I feel a lot better now, but I know my wife is

going to be really upset, so I'd better go now."

"Don't be silly!" she said with a smile, letting her robe fall even more open. "Stay for a while. She won't know anything happened, and by the way, where is she?"

I replied: "Still under the cart, I guess."

-----

The best way to forget your troubles is to wear tight shoes.

The nice part about living in a small town is that when you don't know what you are doing, someone else does.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight because by then your body and your fat are really good friends.

Just when I was getting used to yesterday, along came today.

I gave up jogging for my health when my thighs kept rubbing together and setting fire to my knickers.

Amazing! You hang something in your closet for a while and it shrinks 2 sizes!

Skinny people irritate me! Especially when they say things like...You know sometimes I forget to eat!" .....Now I've forgotten my address, my mother's maiden name and my keys, but I have never forgotten to eat. You have to be a special kind of stupid to forget to eat!

The trouble with some women is that they get all excited about nothing and then they marry him.

This article said the typical symptoms of stress are eating too much, impulse buying, and driving too fast. Are they kidding? That's my idea of a perfect day!

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These are real examples from real resumes:

\*Reasons For Leaving Last Job\*

- Responsibility makes me nervous.
- They insisted that all employees get to work by 8:45 every morning. Couldn't work under those conditions.
- Was met with a string of broken promises and lies, as well as cockroaches.
- I was working for my mom until she decided to move.
- The company made me a scapegoat - just like my three previous employers.

\*Job Responsibilities\*

- While I am open to the initial nature of an assignment, I am decidedly disposed that it be so oriented as to at least partially incorporate the experience enjoyed heretofore and that it be configured so as to ultimately lead to the application of more rarefied facets of financial management as the major sphere of responsibility.
- I was proud to win the Gregg Typting Award.

\*Special Requests and Job Objectives\*

- Please call me after 5:30 because I am self-employed and my employer does not know I am looking for another job.
- My goal is to be a meteorologist. But since I have no training in meteorology, I suppose I should try stock brokerage.
- I procrastinate - especially when the task is unpleasant.

\*Physical Disabilities\*

- Minor allergies to house cats and Mongolian sheep.

**\*Personal Interests\***

- Donating blood. 14 gallons so far.

**\*Small Typos That Can Change the Meaning\***

- Work Experience: Dealing with customers' conflicts that arouse.

- Develop and recommend an annual operating expense fudget.

- I'm a rabid typist.

- Instrumental in ruining entire operation for a Midwest chain operation.

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Answer these first, then look below.

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) From which animal do we get catgut?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) What is the colour of the black box in a commercial airplane?

Now, all done? Check your answers below!

**ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ**

- 1) How long did the Hundred Years War last?  
\*116 years
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?  
\*Ecuador
- 3) From which animal do we get cat gut?  
\*Sheep and Horses
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?  
\*November
- 5) What is a camel's hair brush made of?  
\*Squirrel fur
- 6) The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after what animal?  
\*Dogs
- 7) What was King George VI's first name?  
\*Albert
- 8) What color is a purple finch?  
\*Crimson
- 9) Where are Chinese gooseberries from?  
\*New Zealand
- 10) What is the color of the black box in a commercial airplane?  
\*Orange, of course.

What do you mean you failed?!  
Pass this on to some other brilliant friends

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## Need Help?

Amateurs have a long history of helping each other. An experienced amateur who helps another is traditionally called an

"Elmer." If you have a question or problem, you are encouraged to ask one of SCCARA's Elmers. Below is a list of topics and who to contact for each. If your topic isn't listed, ask one of the Elmers under the topic that comes closest and we'll ask around.

If you consider yourself to be reasonably competent in at least one area of amateur radio and would be willing help others, please fill out an Elmer form (available from the club secretary or on our web site).

**Topics:**

Antennas, feed-lines, tuners: **NV6W, W6JPP, K6PBQ**

CW (Morse code): **NV6W, K6PBQ**

DX (long distance, propagation): **NV6W**

EchoLink: **K6GKB**

Emergency operating, preparedness: **WA6QYS**

HF operating techniques: **NV6W, K6PBQ**

Homebrew projects, construction: **WB6YRU**

Legal, FCC rules: **WB6YRU**

License testing, new amateurs: **W6JPP**

Lightning protection, grounding: **WB6YRU**

Packet Network (BBS, forwarding): **WB6YRU**

SCCARA (club inner workings): **K6PBQ, WB6YRU, WA6QYS**

Station set-up, equipment: **K6PBQ, W6JPP**

TVI, RFI: **WB6YRU**

**Contacts for the above topics:**

K6GKB, Goetz Brandt, 408-259-7287

e-mail: [goetz@ix.netcom.com](mailto:goetz@ix.netcom.com)

NV6W, James D. Armstrong, Jr.,  
evening & msg: 408-670-1680

W6JPP, John Parks  
e-mail: [w6jpp@arrl.net](mailto:w6jpp@arrl.net)

K6PBQ, Don Village, 408-263-2789

WA6QYS, Lou Steirer, 408-241-7999  
e-mail: [wa6qys@arrl.net](mailto:wa6qys@arrl.net)

WB6YRU, Gary Mitchell, 408-269-2924  
packet: home BBS N0ARY  
e-mail: [wb6yru@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wb6yru@ix.netcom.com)

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## Newsletter Notes

About that gift exchange... The steal-it-only-once rule was introduced to keep us from getting stuck in a loop, the same gift getting stolen back and forth. The \$10 suggestion is to keep each gift roughly equal and inexpensive. In the past some have bought something more expensive, but try not to get too carried away, this is just for fun. And it's optional--it's OK if you'd rather not participate in the gift exchange--we hope you'll come to the dinner meeting anyway.

As you can see from the election results (in the minutes), we still need a Secretary, a Vice President, and a fifth Director. If interested, please contact president Gregg KF6FNA.

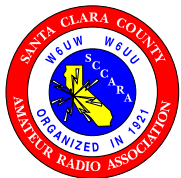
**And don't forget: it's time to renew you membership!**



73, Gary WB6YRU, editor





**SCCARA**

Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association  
PO Box 106  
SAN JOSE CA 95103-0106

**FIRST CLASS****ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED****SCCARA Membership for 2026**

If renewing and none of your info has changed, please only fill in your name and call

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Licensed since (year): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ New Member Renewal I'm also an ARRL member

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

For delivery of the SCCARA-GRAM (pdf) and club announcements

**Membership type and dues:      Individual, \$20      Family, \$25      Student, \$10 (under 18)**

All memberships start January 1 and expire December 31.

Family memberships (more than one member per household): please include the above info for each member, use separate forms.

**New members:**

Dues are prorated: dues x (11 - month) x 10% For example: July would be \$20 x (11-7) x 0.1 = \$8

If joining in November or December: normal dues for next year, the rest of this year is included free.

**I want the paper newsletter delivered by U.S. Mail for an additional \$15 per year**

Prorated, \$1.25 per month. That's \$13.75 if starting in February, \$12.50 if starting in March, etc.)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total** enclosed

Give this completed form and payment to the Secretary or Treasurer at any meeting or mail to the club address.